

Relief in Scotland as colleges win reprieve

by Simon Midgley
The news that all 10 Scottish Colleges of Education are to stay open after all—but with reduced student intakes—was greeted with jubilation and relief this week.

After a year of intense opposition to proposals for closure and merger the Government appears to have bowed to political pressures from MPs of all parties.

The two colleges threatened with closure, Callendar Park in Falkirk and Craigie College in Ayr, are to be retained and Dunfermline College of Physical Education in Edinburgh will not be merged with Dundee College.

The decision of the future scale of teacher training in Scotland was announced in the House of Commons on Tuesday by Mr. Bruce Millan, the Scottish Secretary.

Teacher training is to continue at Callendar Park with a reduced scale of 400 places—the college's remaining accommodation will be used by the Forth Valley Health Board for nurse training.

Craigie College is also to be allowed to continue on a reduced scale with a maximum of 400 teacher training places. The present temporary arrangement under which it provides accommodation for 200 further education students from Ayr Technical College is to become permanent and some facilities may be made available to the Ayrshire and Arran Health Board.

Dunfermline College is to continue to function in its existing premises at Camond but will be linked in future with Queen Margaret College in Edinburgh, a central further education establishment, which will use surplus accommodation when it becomes available.

The Government's proposals represent a complete reversal from its original position at the beginning of the year.

In January the Secretary of State suggested that Craigie and Callendar colleges in Edinburgh, a Roman Catholic training establishment, should merge with a non-denominational college in the East of Scotland. This proposal was eventually withdrawn in May when the Secretary of State also announced his intention of giving further consideration to the future of the other three threatened colleges.

Mr. Millan's change of heart comes after an extraordinarily fierce, sustained and well-orchestrated campaign involving the majority of Scottish MPs, the Labour Party in Scotland, the Association of Lecturers in Scottish Colleges of Education, and the colleges themselves.

At one point Mr. Harry Ewing, MP for Stirling and Falkirk and a Junior Scottish Office minister, was believed to be on the point of resigning in the row over the future of Callendar Park which is in his constituency.

Earlier this week Ms. Mollie Abner, principal of Dunfermline College of Physical Education said that she was "very pleased" that the merger proposal had been discarded.

OU refers standard report back to faculties



Sir Hugh Robson dies at 61

Sir Hugh Robson, principal and vice-chancellor of Edinburgh University, died on Sunday following a short illness. He was 61.

Sir Hugh entered Edinburgh University to study medicine, and graduated in 1941. After serving with the Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve as a surgeon-lieutenant during the war he returned to Edinburgh as a lecturer in medicine in 1947, and within three years was appointed senior lecturer at Aberdeen University.

At the age of 35 he was appointed to chair of the first professor of medicine at Adelaide University in Australia, and was awarded the title of Professor Emeritus there in 1965.

Sir Hugh and his wife, Alice, returned to Britain in 1966, when he became vice-chancellor and principal at Sheffield University.

During the years 1971 to 1974 he served first as vice-chancellor, and then as chairman, of the Committee of Vice-Chancellors and Principals.

In January, 1974, he was knighted, and later in the year he returned to Edinburgh University as principal and vice-chancellor.

Recently he had been closely involved in planning of the university's 400th anniversary celebrations in 1983. Since 1974 he had been chairman of the Scottish Health Services Planning Committee and he had recently been appointed chairman of the Advisory Committee on Medical Training for the BEC.

A private funeral service is to be held for the family. The university is to organise a public memorial service in Edinburgh in January.

OU refers standard report back to faculties

by Maggie Richards
The Open University Senate has referred back to faculties a report on its academic standards, prepared following allegations of Marxist bias in some courses.

At a meeting of Senate on Tuesday academics were concerned that the university had overreacted to the claims. They maintained that existing procedures provided sufficient safeguards.

There was also dissatisfaction about clauses of the report referring to the role of course team chairmen and the need for external assessment of all courses.

The report on academic standards on the Open University was compiled by a special working party after allegations of Marxist bias in the University of Nottingham. It is a new course entitled "Sociology and Society" contained a Marxist slant.

The report was subsequently approved by the university's academic board, before being passed to Senate. Academics were unhappy that the references to external assessment might imply that the university had more faith in external academics than in its own staff.

At an other universities were courses an closely scrutinized, it was argued. It was also pointed out that one of the courses alleged to contain Marxist bias, "Patterns of Inequality", had undergone thorough external assessment.

Proposals to change the role of course team chairmen were questioned, and there was strong opposition to the report's recommendation that chairmen should be

compelled to sign a statement of approval on the completion of courses.

Criticism had been voiced by a number of courses, but was felt, when compared with the facilities, and any of the recommendations will be presented to Senate.

At its meeting, Senate also considered a resolution expressing concern about the report's reference to Marxist bias in higher education.

The resolution reaffirmed its belief in the assertion of academic freedom outlined in the university charter, and stressed that a university system should not be subject to external interference.

The resolution also stated that the university system should not be subject to external interference, and that any such interference should be resisted.

A similar motion placed before the academic board of the School of Economics last week failed to win support.

The motion, put forward by Professor John Griffith, noted the involvement of various present academics at the study group which produced the report, and asked the board to reinforce its belief in academic freedom, as defined in the university constitution.

The proposal failed when a vote to move to next business was lost by the board.

Tories warn they might reject Oakes

by Peter David
An incoming Conservative government may refuse to implement the sweeping reforms of polytechnic and college finance proposed in the final draft of the Oakes report, expected to be published in February.

Neither local government nor the majority of polytechnic directors have endorsed the Association of Metropolitan Authorities accepted it reluctantly after its own scheme for a system of local authority-recupulated financing was rejected.

Most polytechnic directors, on the other hand, favoured the creation of a polytechnic grants committee similar to the University Grants Committee and independent of local government.

The national body envisaged, however, will have powerful local government representation. The Oakes committee was meeting this week in sort out membership after local authority representatives had turned down earlier Department of Education and Science proposals that local government should control only seven of the 24 seats.

A new DES formula would now give local government eight places out of 26. The DES has also drawn up details of a form of veto the local authority representatives would be able to use. It could only be used when there was unanimity among all the local authority members, but could stop any of the decisions made by the national body.

Individual local authorities would retain considerable freedom under the national body, the report said. It is not proposed that it should have power in direct local authorities in relation to their higher education provision.

In general they will need to proceed by negotiation and with the agreement of individual authorities, but in the last resort they must be able to withhold or reduce financial support for activities they regard as unnecessary or uneconomic.

Fire rekindled under Gould 'smear report'

by Maggie Richards
A blaring attack on Professor Julius Gould and his ideas of Marxist and radical involvement in higher education has been launched by the Council for Academic Freedom and Democracy.

A new CAFD pamphlet questions the basis on which Professor Gould has "set himself up as the Defender of Scholarship against the Radical Intellectual Level".

The pamphlet, "The Attack on Higher Education: Radical Penetration", is a re-creation of an attack on "McCarthy's intolerance and witch-hunt" within the education system.

The pamphlet suggests the Gould report propounds a grand conspiracy theory, invulnerable to evidence and poorly argued for. Theories and ideas are alluded to but not discussed at a serious intellectual level.

The CAFD was one of the groups identified in the report as a "front organisation". This claim was supported by the group's chairman Mr. Anthony Arbustor on Saturday, when he announced the pamphlet, "The Attack on Higher Education—Where Does It Come From?"

There is only one organisation behind the CAFD "front", and that is the National Council for Civil Liberties, under whose auspices the council was set up, and to which it remains happily affiliated", he stated.

The pamphlet contains articles by Mr. Arbustor, of Sheffield University, Steven Lukes from Kent, and John Emswiler from Bradford and Steven Rose from the Open University. There are comments on specific parts of the Gould report by John P. White, Douglas Holly, Brian Simon and R. M. Young, and a contribution on Professor Gould and the OU by three staff members.

In the first section Mr. Arbustor questions the claim that Gould requires to uphold the values of intellectual honesty and pluralism, and compares it to later criticism of the unsettling influence of radical education.

It is also condemnatory of Gould's list of academics who participated in conferences organized by left-wing groups.

The effect is not merely to put the finger on the radical concerned, it is to create an atmosphere of suspicion and hostility, in which others with dissident leanings will be deterred from expressing unorthodox opinions involving themselves with known 'radical' groups or organisations, in case they place their own names and careers in jeopardy by doing so.

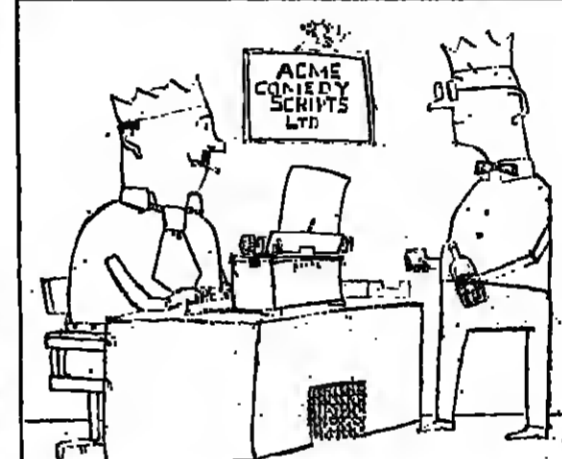
Future of BED opened for discussion

by Simon Midgley
The future of teacher education is to be discussed in a document to be published as a working party report on the future of the Association of Teachers' Colleges and Training of Teachers, which will be sent to all interested parties including polytechnics, colleges and universities.

Under the chairmanship of Dr. Peter G. H. Jones, chief officer of the Council for National Academic Awards, the working party was set up to report in particular on the future of the BED.

The ACSTT considered the findings of a private meeting earlier this month. The decision to publish the report rather than adopt the working party's recommendations as a policy reflects a certain amount of uneasiness among committee members.

Reservations were expressed about the suggestion that three of four year concurrent BED courses should be offered, with a combination of pre-entry training involving higher and undergraduate degrees and a Postgraduate Certificate of Education.



"Thank God for Gould, it could have been a dreary Christmas."

Mr. Lukes labels the report "obviously tendentious and shoddy" and is concerned that the document has been aimed at directors of educational institutions, heads of departments and university moderators, whom he will encourage to lean on anyone who could be described as a radical.

The report is criticised for being "written not in the scholarly but in the rhetorical mode, using the language and paraphernalia of scholarship for political purposes". The pamphlet includes an examination of the structure and scholarship of the Gould report by Hilary and Steven Rose. They found "There are not fewer than 19 errors in fact or quotation—most apart from those of interpretation—in the 84 lines of our work which Gould quotes."

The couple say they then attempted to contact all those cited in the report, to ask that they check the references made to their work. "The replies suggest that, far from being accidental and limited to the discussion of our work, this process of error and distortion appears to be widespread."

After including comments from other academics quoted in the report, Mr. and Mrs. Rose say: "The cited sources are carelessly assembled, and little attention seems to have been given to such scholarly niceties as accuracy of referencing or quoting in context."

During discussion of the CAFD pamphlet at Saturday's meeting, council members were particularly concerned about possible repercussions of the Gould report, especially on students.

CVCP claims government figures wrong

by Judith Judd
The Government's estimates of universities' income per student this year are too high, according to the Committee of Vice-Chancellors and Principals. Officers of the CVCP said this week that the Government's figures, given in a written parliamentary answer three weeks ago, are based on student numbers which are already out of date.

They urged that in the reply, Mr. Oakes, Minister of State for Higher Education, should state the number of students assumed for 1978-79 was 279,000. In fact, the provisional count for this academic year showed that there were already 280,000 in universities.

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Mr. Oakes said the universities' average income from recurrent grant, rates from local authorities and tuition fees, had declined from £2,825 per student in 1973-4 to £2,865 this academic year.

The CVCP says that because of the increase in numbers the average income per student this year must be lower than £2,865.

The figures are the latest development in the controversy over the ninth report of the Public Accounts Committee, which said that universities' income had not declined over the past five years.

Mr. Edward du Cann, the committee's chairman, last week said that further investigation had confirmed their original view.

However, the CVCP says the figures given by Mr. Oakes in the Commons which show the decline in income per student in real terms represent the universities' true position. It points out that, though the arguments put forward by Mr. du Cann are broadly correct as far as they go, they only tell half the story.

The CVCP says Mr. Oakes's figures show that income per student has fallen by more than 10 per cent during the past four years.

Mr. Brian Taylor, executive secretary of the CVCP, said the committee's aim was to arrest the downward slope. This would have continued if the universities had to take 289,000 in 1980-81 on the provisional grants announced in March.

A spokesman for the Department of Education and Science said the Government took the point about the increase in student numbers. Mr. Oakes's answer related to the grants announced in March this year and to a provisional total of 289,000 in 1980-81 on the probable now been overtaken by a new student target and the Government was reconsidering the level of grant.

DES denies fee rise hits home students

The Department of Education and Science has denied that its new regulations on overseas student fees will result in many home students who study or work abroad for more than nine months being charged as the overseas rate and losing their entitlement to grants.

The denial comes after college admissions staff had expressed fears that the DES's controversial circular in 8/77, issued in August to enable colleges to charge overseas students higher fees without contravening the Race Relations Act, would include many ordinary home students in its new definition of overseas or "specified" students.

In a parliamentary answer last week Mr. Oakes, minister of state for higher education, told Mr. Alan Bath, MP, that circular 8/77 did not "widely" grant grants from local education authorities.

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Comprehensives have yet to wipe out inequality

by Peter Davill

A familiar pattern of unequal access to higher education is revealed this week in the Government's annual statistical publication, *Social Trends*.

It shows that although last year more than three-quarters of pupils in England and Wales were in comprehensive schools, the social background of young people remains one of the key pointers to their educational achievements.

For example, a young person aged 16 to 19 whose father is in a non-manual job is twice as likely to be in full-time education as young people with unskilled fathers, and the children of professional fathers still have the edge over the children of unskilled parents.

Comprehensive schools have not yet had any decisive impact on the distribution of A levels either. Although the proportion of school leavers with A levels doubled from 8 per cent to 16 per cent between 1972 and 1977, this was largely since, and actually fell in 1975 before returning to 16 per cent in 1975-76.

Nearly half of those who obtained A levels attended grammar, independent or direct grant schools, although these types accounted for only one in eight school leavers in 1975-76.

Social Trends does note some change, however, in the number of leavers with A levels who decline to go to further education, where Social Trends reports that many more young people are taking school-type qualifications. In 1971-75 12,000 students obtained at least two A levels at colleges in England and Wales. This was 50 per cent higher than in 1965-67, and is expected to rise to 18,079 by 1980-81.

Growing demand among unskilled adults for educational qualifications is shown, too, in the pattern of examinations at lower levels. These results reflect, respectively, the feeling that a degree is no longer a passport to a "good job" (a feeling reinforced by recent graduate unemployment), and the demand from employers for more qualified recruits at all levels. In spite of the increase in education

The plight of the woman worker

by Simon Mideley

Women will never achieve equality in the world of work until a way is found of reconciling their family responsibilities with the demands of a job.

This view was expressed in a paper considered by participants of the annual Standing Conference on Studies in Education held in London last week. The theme of the 1977 meeting was "Educational Attitudes and Economic Survival". Mrs Ann Wolpe, of Middlesex Polytechnic, writing on "Girls and Economic Survival", said that it was too simplistic to think that changing the ideas women have about the fields in which they work will lead to changes in the kind of jobs they do in society.

The Green Paper's suggestion that one fundamental basis for change would be to broaden the aspirations and motivations of women so that they feel confident to work in unfamiliar fields, for example, science and technology, was insufficient.

It is the fundamentally contradictory ideologies which governed the role of women in society.

"The idea of the maternal roles of women must clash head-on with the ideology which calls on girls to contribute to the country's good through an acquisition and utilization of technological skills", she said.



Mrs Williams, Secretary of State for Education and Science, was stopped by students who put their case against education cuts during her visit to Leeds University's school of education recently.

The involvement of women in the labour force was not a function of their aspirations or motivations. For the majority their paid labour enabled them to make a substantial and often essential contribution to the family budget.

Their work was only the less contradictory to the particular role of the major role allocated to women—that of the maternal housewife.

As long as women accepted this maternal homemaker image with out questioning, they would continue to regard the work they did in the occupational structure as peripheral and relatively unimportant by comparison.

Much of the school curriculum contains a covert or hidden message, she said, which reproduced the idea of women as wives and mothers and ignored their role in the labour force.

In conclusion Mrs Wolpe said that although it was clear that there are practically no jobs which women are unable to perform, they nevertheless work in the main in restricted areas which mainly require minimal skills.

For a variety of reasons, directly related to the family institution, girls and women have little power. This lack of power and their low status in the occupational world are both reinforced and legitimized by the ideology which negates the need for a variety of reasons, directly related to the family institution, girls and women have little power.

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Dons take new tack in fight over pay claim

Reports by Judith Judd

Literary teachers are to muffle their claims and withdraw their demand for increases of 31 per cent this year. The Association of University Teachers' executive announced its decision at the association's council meeting at Heriot-Watt University in Edinburgh.

The decision does not mean the association is abandoning its claim for the right to its pay annually. It believes it is not realistic to pursue the full claim this year. The new claim which was due to the negotiating procedure, on Tuesday, is for a 10 per cent rise from October 1 towards the end of the month which has raised their salaries have fallen below those of their counterparts in other education.

In addition they are asking for a 10 per cent rise which further education teachers receive when their salaries are raised in April. This could be as much as 10 per cent.

There were some cries of "No" from the hall when Dr Peter Tiley, chairman of the association's salaries and grading committee, announced the modified claim.

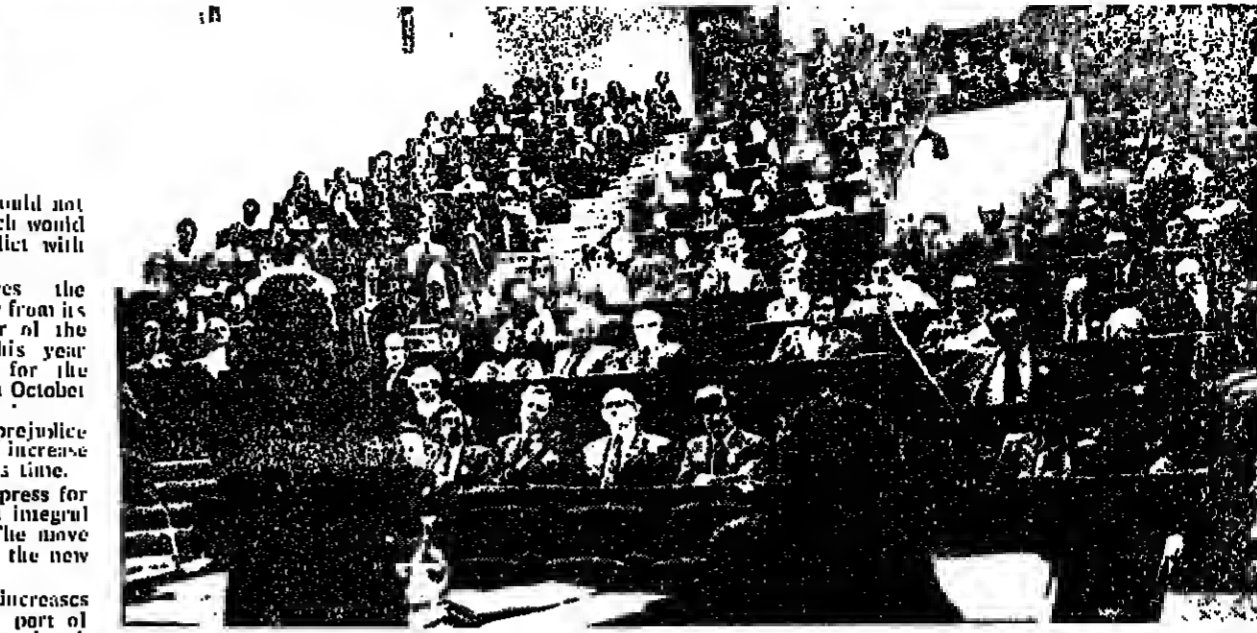
Dr Tiley, of Bath University, told the Council: "Neither the Government nor the public seem prepared to support the claims of the teacher. The message coming through from MPs is that we should not try to break the pay cap."

The union's main functions would be to coordinate and support the activities of committees and groups concerned with in-service training, educational research, curriculum development, educational technology and research.

The Organisation of Educational Technology report is based on a feasibility study undertaken by CET at the request of the Department of Education in Northern Ireland.

The report recommends that education technology in schools, further and higher education, as well as in industrial training, libraries and museums to see how they could be more effectively shared out.

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Mr Laurie Sopper faces his members at the Heriot-Watt meeting.

Members will refuse to put pen to examination paper

Council voted by 114 votes to 88 to refuse to investigate or mark their students' final examination papers until the government made university teachers an acceptable pay offer.

The motion which has been accepted before by council was opposed by the AUEW executive.

Glasgow delegates who proposed the resolution called for a positive stand on pay to stop the demoralization of the association's members and to show the commitment of university teachers to their salary claim.

Professor Alan Pritchard, of Nottingham University, the association's vice-president, said the executive did not rule out action over examinations but members had to weigh up the likely success of militancy and how many members would support it.

The association's contingency planning working party had circulated all local associations for information about when they held examinations. Only eight of the 74 had replied and their examinations were spread over four months.

Another motion from Glasgow calling for a one-day strike in early February in support of the salary claim was defeated.

Dr L. H. Palmer of Bath University said the motion was simply going through a ritual of ritual's sake. A one-day strike would be useless.

Motions condemn West Germany and South Africa

On international affairs, a motion was accepted saying the AUEW viewed with concern West Germany's policy of applying to university staff "political discrimination in appointing Government employees".

A resolution from Nottingham University was passed expressing alarm at the increasing denial of the essential freedoms of speech of the press and of assembly by the South African Government in pursuit of its policy of apartheid.

It said: "Council object to colleagues in South African universities maximum support for any efforts they make to defend academic freedom and to reverse current trends so that their country may move towards a just and open society."

Council condemned the British Council's practice of offering travel grants to promote interchanges between universities in this country and South Africa and demanded that the scheme should cease.

It also instructed the executive to give urgent consideration to the issue of cooperation between British and South African institutions of higher education.

On grants to universities Council reaffirmed its policy that the block grant system was too inflexible. It called on the Government to reintroduce a system of supplementary grants especially for salaries.

Then just to emphasize the Janus-like quality of the meeting, the council on Saturday changed its mind. It passed, after a bad-tempered debate, a motion from the Open University condemning Professor Gould in just the kind of intemperate and unwise language of which there are too many examples in *The Attack on Higher Education* itself. Whether it was collective amnesia or schizophrenia or just that the conservative in- who can tell?

West German lecture boycott stutters to a halt

from Paul Moorman

WEST BERLIN The fortnight-long lecture boycott by West Germany's 850,000 students suited to a halt at the end of last week. Most campuses saw a return to normal academic activity. At the Free University here, traditionally a centre of militancy, the "picket lines" disappeared. As a student leader put it: "They are now getting ready to go skiing."

Most protesters were not so light-hearted. Many moderate students said they joined the boycott, called the radical German Students' Union (GSD), not for political reasons but as a way of taking public their increasing financial and employment problems.

Although a federal government spokesman in Bonn dismissed the boycott as "a damp squib" the union said that two-thirds of the country's 180 universities and other colleges had shut down. "It took some bravery to be prepared to be identified openly with a left-organised demonstration: so soon after the latest terrorist events", said one student.

Whatever the strength of the boycott, the students do appear to have some genuine grievances. Indeed, an open letter from Herr Hans-Rudolf Rohde, the federal education minister, backed by the education ministers of the five federal states (Länder) controlled by the Bonn ruling coalition parties, admitted as much. But promises of brighter times ahead were not enough to avert the walk-out.

The boycott was sparked off by changes in university laws now being planned by the Länder which are largely independent of Bonn in educational policy-making. The changes follow the passing in November, 1975, of the federal government's University Framework Act, designed to establish broadly standard higher education development throughout the country. It

MSC urges Coventry link

Links between Coventry's skill centre and a college of further education to encourage course coordination and tutor exchanges have been proposed in the final recommendations of the Coventry Memorandum Services Project steering group.

The project, jointly run by the MSC and City of Coventry Education Department, was set up last autumn to take stock of the labour market, examine industrial and occupational trends and their implications for the education and manpower services, and recommend how they might most effectively help to solve labour market problems.

Other recommendations include the joint administration by the MSC and City of Coventry Education Department, was set up last autumn to take stock of the labour market, examine industrial and occupational trends and their implications for the education and manpower services, and recommend how they might most effectively help to solve labour market problems.

OU continuing education head

The Open University has appointed a new pro vice-chancellor to oversee its development in continuing education. A meeting of the senate last week agreed the appointment of Professor Ralph Smith.

Professor Smith, who has been with the Open University since his inception, took over as acting vice-chancellor for nine months in 1975 when Sir Walter Perry was on sabbatical leave.

His appointment as pro vice-chancellor for continuing education represents the Open University's latest step towards implementing the recommendations of a national programme of adult education outlined in the report of a committee chaired by Sir Peter Vasey, the Open University's first pro-vice-chancellor.

One of the major proposals was the creation of a centre for continuing education, which it was envisaged would produce courses and materials, undertake research, and foster a positive attitude to continuing education within the Open University.

Council finds itself in two minds on Marxist allegations

Council rejected a motion deploring a controversial report on Marxist influences in universities. The report was especially subjected to the spirited listing of individuals in the report whom dissenting members felt they were supposed to have said.

"I have difficulty in accepting any statement that this report should be treated as a serious piece of academic discussion. It is a polemic character and if it is accepted would threaten the respectability of the AUEW."

Dr Richard Hyman from Warwick argued that systematic attacks were being made on the position of members of the association who were radical.

The motion noted "with concern the attacks upon the academic and scholarly integrity of some members of the AUEW initiated by the publication of a pamphlet, edited by Professor Julius Gould."

It said the publicity that the allegations had received gave the impression of an orchestrated campaign against radicals and went on to deplore the McCarthyism technique of smear and innuendo against named individuals and institutions which the campaign appears to be employing.

Professor Gould, who was not present at the second debate said: "The AUEW council members were very powerful in my report. I exactly as described in my report. I made myself ridiculous by taking different decisions on two successive days."

Mr Laurie Sopper, the association's general secretary, said the Council's previous one.

Outer determination, inner despair

Pay dominated the council meeting. More than half its two days was taken up with discussion of the AUEW's formal claim for full rectification of the anomaly plus a 16 per cent cost-of-living increase, its fallback position of 10 per cent plus in partial rectification plus whatever polytechnic teachers are awarded next April, and about what action to take in the not-too-likely event of even this being rejected.

The general mood of the council seemed to be one of outward determination and inward despair. There could be no doubt about the resentment felt by the overwhelming majority of delegates at the Government's refusal to pay increases. But nor could there be much doubt about the underlying feeling of frustration, and even impotence.

So the decisions taken were deeply ambiguous. First, the council meekly acquiesced in a reduction in the current claim of at least a third, from about 32 per cent immediately to 20 per cent now and 10 in April. When council members were told the original claim was not on and that university teachers must appear to be reasonable, the isolated cry of "shame" died away in embarrassed and even unmythical silence.

But when it came to considering what the AUEW's response should be if the Government rejected even this scaled down claim, the council rediscovered its militant feelings. A

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Aberdeen may miss targets

Aberdeen University's student numbers are not rising in line with the national trend, Sir Fraser Noble, the university's principal, warned last week.

He told the university's general council that although there were some courses which were being closed, the university had been forced to reduce its student numbers. The University Grants Committee, which was set up in 1968, had projected a larger figure of 6,500 students by 1980-81. The university now projects a total of only 6,000.



Sir Fraser Noble.

the development of an increasing number of clinical teaching centres. In time it should be capable of coping, in the principal subjects, with over 20 students in both the fourth and fifth years of their course.

Sir Fraser, discussing finance problems, said in a prolonged period of uncertainty, decision-making became too conservative and in a sense opportunistic rather than prudent.

Since three-quarters of all our expenditure is on wages and salaries, so much of the saving has to be found from leaving posts vacant or vacancies arise. If this goes on too long, it produces inefficiency. Some departments are undermanned, while others may be overmanned.

This was the sombre truth behind the apparently cheerful financial outcome of 1976-77, which produced an expected expenditure of about £500,000. The finance committee had wisely put most of this into reserve. It might all be required to offset a sizable deficit expected in 1977-78.

Academics question OU profits from South African sales

Questions about the use of profits made from the sale of Open University materials to South Africa were raised at the university senate last week.

Academics at the OU are concerned at the university's involvement in provision of materials to South Africa through its marketing company, Open University Educational Enterprises Limited.

At a meeting to debate last week, Dr Stuart Bennett raised the issue, and enquired whether profits from the sale of materials to South Africa had been placed in the university's general purposes account.

Dr Bennett also pointed out that the OU Council had taken to help trade with South Africa. He was told that the issue had been passed on to the board of OURE Limited, which would be meeting shortly to discuss the matter.

Replying to the inquiry on the use of profits, the university's vice-chancellor Sir Walter Perry said it was not possible to make any statement at present. He explained that the director of OURE Limited was abroad.

Pressure to halt the flow of material to South Africa has come from the Association of University Teachers branch at the university. The branch feels that its members are unilaterally contravening the terms of a resolution adopted nationally by the AUT in 1972.

At that time the AUT called on its members not to apply for or to accept posts at any African universities, which contained racial discrimination.

In July the OU senate agreed to do all in its power to stop the export of university material to South Africa, and officials visits by South Africans to the university campus at Milton Keynes have been banned for some time.

The OU has been exporting course units, mainly on mathematics, to students taking correspondence courses through the University of South Africa. The UNISA admits black and white students to courses.

£60m share-out for saving energy
Education is to get a £60m slice of the Government's £22m energy-saving programme announced last week by Mr Benn, the Secretary of State for Energy.

TEC document outlines ways of helping external students

Major proposals for an external student scheme based on a programme of correspondence study and "importing" and "exporting" colleges, have been outlined by the Technical Education Council in a recent policy document.

The council comes into operation, technicians at present unable to attend college regularly would be given the opportunity of studying for TEC awards.

The council does not have the financial resources for implementing the scheme but it has applied for funds to carry out a feasibility study on the viability of a national system, for which it would not necessarily have the responsibility.

Detailed discussions on the document are planned with further education colleges, teachers' organizations, local authorities and other organizations such as the Open University carrying out similar work.

TEC believes that the system ought to be developed as part of existing provision and not as an alternative.

TEC's proposed scheme is based on the concept of "exporting" colleges whose main responsibility would be to provide distance learning material, which is to come from the TEC. "Importing" colleges would use this material for teaching external students.

Students would be offered three different methods of study. The first involves part-time attendance at an "importing" college already providing TEC programmes or units suitable for this particular course, completing the remainder on an external basis.

In the second the students could study completely externally through a combination of units partly provided by the colleges and partly based on distance learning. In the third alternative the student would study completely externally using distance learning material but with the colleges providing materials and other facilities.

TEC is intent on reassuring colleges who might be concerned that such a scheme would exacerbate their present financial and resources difficulties. It believes that existing facilities, if reduced to external students, would be perfectly adequate for external students.

It is even possible that Open University study centres could meet all the needs of these students in which case this could be the basis for future collaboration between TEC and the Open University, the document states.

TEC has considered various methods of providing distance learning material and eventually decided on the learning package format to be mainly made up of written units.

Green College's first fellows

The names of 22 founding fellows of Green College, Oxford, have been announced. The new college, for clinical students, is in the buildings and grounds of the former Radcliffe Observatory and was established thanks to a gift of £1m from Dr Cecil Green, the Dalmeida Industrialist and his wife.

The fellows include two lecturers in the department of social and administrative studies, Mrs J. Chiswick and Mr D. W. Milford, and an assistant registrar in the university offices.

The social scientists' inclusion in the governing body of the new college reflects the growing sense of the importance of cooperation between the medical profession and social workers.

The administrator appointed to the fellowship is Dr Irwin Herrman, secretary to the University and Industry Committee, who also serves as secretary to committees planning the new college.

The appointments go some way towards solving the Oxford problem of "contentment" - providing college fellowships for university teachers who are qualified for their appointments, but have not yet obtained them.

Building work is expected to start in January and it is hoped the college will open in October, 1979. The other fellows are: Mr C. E. Ackroyd, clinical teacher,

Nuffield department of orthopaedic surgery; Mr C. B. T. Adams, consultant neurosurgeon, department of neurosurgery; Mr B. D. Bower, consultant paediatrician, department of paediatrics; Mr B. J. Britton, clinical reader, Nuffield department of surgery; Dr J. B. Clegg, university lecturer, Nuffield department of clinical medicine; Mr R. A. Dickson, clinical reader, Nuffield department of orthopaedic surgery; Mr M. P. Embrey, clinical reader, Nuffield department of obstetrics and gynaecology; Mr E. W. L. Fletcher, consultant radiologist, department of radiology; Dr R. W. Hahn, university lecturer, Nuffield department of anaesthetics; Mr M. G. W. Kettlewell, consultant surgeon, Nuffield department of surgery; Dr R. Marshall, clinical reader in chest diseases, Churchill Hospital; Mr R. Peto, Imperial Cancer Research Fund, reader in cancer studies, department of the regius professor of medicine; Mr G. M. Strarr, clinical reader, Nuffield department of obstetrics and gynaecology; Mr C. Turner, clinical reader in medicine, department of the regius professor of medicine; Mr C. P. Warlow, clinical reader, department of neurology; Dr G. T. Warner, senior research officer, Nuffield department of clinical medicine; Mr A. Wright, clinical reader, department of pathology.

Department of Education and Science BASIC UNIVERSITIES STATISTICS OCTOBER 1977 United Kingdom

	1936-67	1974-75	1975-76
NUMBER OF UNIVERSITIES			
Great Britain	44	43	43
United Kingdom	45	46	46
FULL-TIME(1)			
STUDENT ENROLMENTS(2)			
Undergraduate level-men	109,046	132,479	130,863
-women	43,184	70,218	74,555
of which			
from overseas	7,641	11,714	13,051
qualification limit			
language	148,058	199,461	208,066
other	25,397	3,234	3,403
postgraduate level-men	6,576	35,571	38,707
-women		12,299	13,083
of which			
from overseas	8,123	16,044	17,213
nature of study			
night courses	n.a.	24,103	25,159
research	n.a.	23,767	24,868
total GB students	184,799	260,665	261,263
total UK students	189,055	267,684	268,714
NEW ENTRANTS-FULL-TIME(1)(2)			
undergraduate-first degree	61,395	68,311	72,031
-others	2,100	2,378	2,846
postgraduate	n.a.	29,402	30,729
total GB new entrants	n.a.	100,091	105,631
total UK new entrants	62,768	70,090	73,285
undergraduate-first degree-UK	2,200	2,651	2,899
-others -UK	n.a.	30,089	31,322
postgraduate-UK	n.a.	102,930	108,124
PART-TIME ENROLMENTS			
undergraduate	3,931	3,097	3,614
postgraduate	12,637	21,048	21,459
total GB part-time	18,665	24,145	25,099
total UK part-time	19,376	25,373	26,317
DEGREES AND DIPLOMAS AWARDED			
first degrees -GB	36,256	54,114	n.a.
-UK	37,168	56,048	n.a.
first diplomas -GB	3,036	1,893	n.a.
-UK	3,119	1,700	n.a.
ACADEMIC STAFF			
all full-time teaching and research			
professors	2,700	3,987	4,088
-UK	2,028	4,107	4,205
readers	4,748	7,081	7,995
-UK	4,041	7,082	8,148
lecturers/assistant lecturers	19,294	23,286	23,896
-UK	18,621	23,883	24,516
others	1,008	2,017	2,218
-UK	1,725	2,037	2,227
total	27,471	39,050	38,093
-UK	26,015	37,009	36,136

(1) Including sandwich. (2) Figures refer to GB unless otherwise stated.

	1965-66	1973-74	1974-75
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE			
INCOME (£ million)			
excellent grants	124-208	372-709	444-678
grants from local authorities	1-659	1-122	801
endowments and donations	3-330	6-419	8-418
less	12-498	23-982	26-770
total	18-027	63-207	69-152
research grants	4-450	13-736	16-889
for other specific purposes	2-981	8-413	8-853
miscellaneous	107-403	479-079	672-299
total	133-629	373-520	445-389
of which			
England	8-837	26-039	31-263
Wales	22-168	69-016	81-263
Scotland	2-669	11-456	14-417
Northern Ireland			
EXPENDITURE (£ million)			
teaching and research	110-351	293-537	308-631
academic services	8-188	3-700	43-693
other general educational	4-349	12-175	13-519
administration	11-207	33-322	37-755
maintenance of premises	22-729	68-243	11-477
student amenities	2-477	8-602	6-468
miscellaneous	2-442	5-758	3-209
capital not from income	1-876	5-070	573-202
total	163-617	482-316	673-202
of which			
England	130-605	358-051	390-892
Wales	8-771	24-997	81-946
Scotland	21-730	67-071	14-627
Northern Ireland	2-611	11-298	
NON-RECURRENT GRANTS (£ million)			
Great Britain only	20-852	40-297	24-586
equipment and furniture	58-023	48-058	48-813
other (including building)	79-875	88-055	71-380

North American news: Sporting star system may be on wane

American campuses are slowly turning away from sporting scholarships and giving grants to a new category of student: the academically gifted. Clive Cookson reports

WASHINGTON
The days when the best football player in an American high school could get a free university education regardless of his parents' wealth but the star pupil could get almost as much.

It is the latest study of these "no-merit" or "honour" or "merit" awards, as they are variously known, that has been completed by Mr. Sidar, executive director of the College Scholarship Service, part of the New York-based College Entrance Examination Board.

Mr. Sidar's survey, which covered 11 representative institutions, found that 64 per cent are currently awarding no-merit scholarships ranging in value from \$100 to \$600 a year. The normal level is \$500 to \$600 in public and around \$1,000 in private institutions.

Mr. Sidar's survey, published in 1975 by the Robert Huff of Stony Brook University, showed that 55 per cent of institutions were giving scholarships worth from \$25 in 1969 to a year.

Next year Virginia Polytechnic Institute starts a much bigger programme. It will offer no-merit scholarships worth up to \$2,500 to more than 150 students a year.

With the University of Maryland and Virginia Tech recognized that an academic emphasis is needed on top of the money, as they have designed "new" honours programmes, especially for their selection under the best professors.

Ohio State University, which started offering 5500 scholarships two years ago, has succeeded in tripling its enrolment of finalists in the National Merit Programme from 57 in 1972. The National Merit Competition started in 1955, is entered each year by a million American children in their penultimate year at high school. The 14,000 finalists are those that perform best in a qualifying test designed to measure verbal and mathematical skills.

Opening a Pandora's Box

Talking in Stairways about the country's 22 state universities, three private ones and various other institutions brings out a variety of reactions.

For students, memories of the Franco regime are still fresh. Miguel, for example, a 24-year-old former student leader and now in his fifth year in engineering at Madrid's Polytechnic, recalls that only two years ago there were five police informers attending each university course.

He believes that achievement at school should be rewarded by the school and not by the university to which the student progresses. Prizes like the one-time \$1,000 National Merit Scholarships awarded each year to 1,000 university entrants across the United States are acceptable to Mr. Sidar, but not the more common form of award that guarantees the recipient an income for all four of his or her undergraduate years.

The University of Maryland is one state university that has just joined the merit movement, though on a relatively modest scale, in a frank attempt to improve its academic image.

From this year 10,500 Chancellor's Scholarships are being awarded annually—covering 60 per cent of tuition costs—and the university is hoping to catch a few of Maryland's middle-class students who would otherwise have gone to prestigious private universities where fees exceed \$7,000 a year.

Both staff and students remember the neglect that was the former regime. Mr. Sidar says that under the former regime, the average number of academic scholarships per institution, 95, is far below the average of 1,000 awarded per university. Universities are spending less money on the retention of talented students for the sons and daughters of their teaching and administrative staff than they are on white-collar merit scholarships.

Mr. Sidar is moving the opposition to those like Mr. Sidar, who think they are a waste of money that should be going to students in need.

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Student demonstrations remain a regular part of the university scene.

BOOKS

Ethos rather than ideology

Patriots and Literators: Revolution in the Netherlands 1780-1813 by Simon Schama

1780-1813 were years of danger and upheaval for the Dutch. Following the fourth Anglo-Dutch War, and the near revolution of the Patriot movement, the Orangists were forcibly restored by Anglo-Prussian intervention, two years before the French revolution.

refer, slightly apologetically, to its bulk three times in the introduction, but the publishers are to be congratulated on allowing him to extol himself in the sort of detailed exposition and illustration that he skillfully employs to clarify his narrative.

Naturally some doubts arise. The mention only once, is it true of the Dutch Patriots that they were so intellectually provincial that "the influence of [the] Philosophes" seems to have passed them by? (page 68)? It seems unlikely, given, as Schama points out, that many of the works of the Enlightenment were printed in Holland.

More important is the broad interpretative sweep emerging from the narrative. Schama seriously disputes the mythology but popularly persistent myth that the Dutch revolution slavishly followed the French prototype. In general, Dutch events fit firmly in the picture of hardship and stubborn endurance. The old Republic, in a state of political decay and impotence, underwent an at least only partially successful revolution.

ization largely follows C. H. E. de Witt who has breathed fresh life into this period of Dutch history. We may nevertheless wonder about the degree of pessimism. A system which, although dilapidated, retrogressively and successfully defended its social structure in the circumstances here vividly depicted must have had at least a certain resilience. Schama's explanation lies not in systems but in the Dutch spirit, that was an "ethos rather than ideology" (page 561). This appears to have existed independently of whatever formal structures supported the Dutch state.

Schama may well be right. Certainly he is persuasive. But it is difficult to imagine an appropriate revolutionary stature for a country whose major source of strength remained its rapid power, severely tried, by surviving French cupidity, English competition and crippling taxation. This routinized strength was a source of tension in the new state.

In any case a revolution that had as its goal the liberation of a "free Netherlands" consisting of "professionals, artisans, petty-brokers, professional men, Catholic tenant farmers, Jewish physicians" (page 651) must have experienced serious limitations on what it could—or would wish to—achieve. These may have constituted internally limiting factors at least as potent as another fatal flaw identified by Schama, a strategic geography which made it impossible for the Dutch to escape the French alliance, the necessary condition of the Batavian Revolution.

Possibly a single reader will agree with all Schama's judgments, but none will fail to be impressed by his many subtle insights. Clearly this splendidly ebullient and provoking book is a major contribution to Dutch and revolutionary history. It may also attract scholars to further research in a field rich in archival sources as yet barely scratched. If it does, they will be— as we are now—in Schama's debt.

Renée Gerson



This rosewood chair of c. 1850, attributed to John H. Decker of New York, is a very decorative but, curvilinear with oak leaves, scrolls and scrolls. From English Furniture 1800-1851, by Edward T. Jay, published by Sotheby Parke Bernal at £17.50.

Irish combination

The Irish Co-operative Movement: A History and Development by Patrick Bolger

There is a course book, normally told with the complacent air of a man who has made up his mind about a subject.

The reform of local government in 1974 meant that in England, Wales and metropolitan districts along with London boroughs were to retain library powers. The smaller library authorities which Pemberton shows had been apparently influential, but very recently were swept away and the total number of library authorities in Great Britain was cut from 460 to 161.

Mr Bolger has in fact made quite a big book of it, and much of the interest in the work lies in the technical and failures that characterize the story as well as in its aspects of Irish agriculture. But behind this lies the larger motif of cooperation in society in more general terms. The reader will have made his mind up about the value of this book as a study of the history of the Irish co-operative movement, R. A. Anderson: "But you Irish—you can conspire, but you cannot combine."

Prof. G. Kelly has performed a useful service in reviewing his latest work to bring in the events of 1974. Since Pemberton's book concentrates particularly on politics and public libraries, it would have been of great value if it had had a terminal date of 1975 instead of 1970. This would have enabled the author to discuss fully the catastrophe of the library service, and its earlier work in the wider perspective.

Peter Gosden

A little reminiscent of some examples of Irish butter before Sir Horace Plunkett and his associates got it.

This point is of some importance. It may be that the appearance of butter can be denied, especially today. There are some Irish people, which are notably more plentiful in the farmyard than in the supermarket, and there are some of Bolger's facts which are much more useful than the ornate rhetoric of the publisher's blurb. The book is obvious as they are not Irish (Italian, Military, etc.), and are chosen more with common ethnic interests in mind rather than with any proper professional textbook rigour. The author even appears to be inclined to think that volume in Irish cooperation would be destined to be a small one. Patrick Bolger quotes Moritz Julius Bonn (unfortunately without mentioning his major contribution to the history of the "Kolonisation in Ireland") as saying to the leader of the Irish co-operative movement, R. A. Anderson: "But you Irish—you can conspire, but you cannot combine."

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It may be noted here that the author shows decided courage in showing just how vicious and short-sighted Roman Catholic clerical pressure could be while he pays his eloquent tribute to various heroic priests, notably the brilliant Tom Finlay. On more recent political developments he is duller—so are they—and less courageous—so are they, again.

Owen Dudley Edwards

At high latitudes

Geomorphology of Geomorphology by J. Rice

Caution, conservatism is, of course, rather appropriate for a first-year text. When buttressed as here by a willingness to use numbers, especially for rates of change, it provides a sound basis for later work. Many will regret there is not a greater emphasis on process, but computers are sure to follow who will exploit this theme.

It maps the same geological terrain that characterized the work of Penck and Morgau although it is transformed by the processes of plate tectonics. The first chapter of Penck's Introduction to Geomorphology. I would like to see the first year off hydraulic geomorphology and even Walter Penck, if only they had read—and thought about—these ideas.

In many ways, this fundamental omission is surprising, for at many points he goes quickly to the heart of an idea, and he is adept at including a lot of evidence, and examples in each chapter. This is good for a textbook will be read more than once, and the intelligent student will find himself learning and understanding more with each successive reading. In contrast, the rather meagre references and a list of a concession to modern habits. The book is attractive, but the designers have been given too much scope, and some photographs and diagrams are unsatisfactory.

Keith Clayton

Earth history's history

The Making of Geology: Earth History in Britain 1660-1815 by Peter H. Raven

Dr Porter's objective is to set the scene for the history of geology in Britain. The history of geology was not a sudden flash of genius in 1830. It was a long and varied process of studies in the earth sciences extending back to such illustrious luminaries as the Royal Society's Hooke, Plot and Ray, and the foundations laid by pioneers, Hutton, Playfair, and others. It is a pity that the book is so short, and that it does not cover the full range of the history of geology in Britain.

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G. L. Herries Davies

BOOKS

Polymer chemistry

Polymerisation of Organised Systems edited by H. U. Elias

Many naturally occurring processes occur by stepwise growth of a macromolecule while the reacting components are partially, or wholly, bound in another macromolecule. Such reactions are termed "matrix" or "template" polymerizations and important examples include the biosynthesis of polyribonucleotides and polypeptides.

This book provides further evidence of the rapidly growing influence of biologically important processes on synthetic polymer chemistry and consists of 14 review papers which adequately describe the current status of work in the area. In addition it discusses of template polymerizations involving

Introduction to Liquid State Chemistry by V. Merens

This book aims to provide an introduction to the chemistry of the liquid state for both advanced students and practising chemists. The underlying theme is the application of statistical mechanics and thermodynamics to equilibrium properties of liquids and liquid mixtures. The subject material is extensive and ranges from liquid argon through aqueous salt solutions, and the reader's interest being sustained throughout.

The liquid state is a no-man's land between gaseous and solid states because in liquid both molecular motion and strong intermolecular interactions are important. The first chapter reviews some general properties of liquids, and intermolecular forces and, in an appendix, some basic concepts in statistical thermodynamics. Correlation functions and their measurement are discussed in chapter two, together with theories and computer-based models of the liquid state. This chapter provides the basis for the discussion in subsequent chapters. Thus, in chapter three, the properties of atomic and molecular liquids are examined from various standpoints.

Significant progress in the analysis of the properties of liquid mixtures and solutions can be made by examining the extent to which these differ from those calculated on the basis of ideal mixing. The relevant theory is discussed in chapter four and applied, in chapter five, to various classes of liquid mixtures. The thermodynamic properties of solutions (chapter six) are examined with particular attention to the treatment of non-ideal interactions in aqueous solutions. Finally, two chapters examine the properties of molten salts and liquid alloys on the basis of their phase diagrams. A number of tables in appendices together with references to other data compilations are given.

The omission of a consideration of irreversible processes is unfortunate, for example, self-diffusion in liquids, and the self-diffusion in molten salts, are a subject of considerable interest. It is a pity that the book is so short, and that it does not cover the full range of the history of geology in Britain.

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A rewrite

Principles of Organic Chemistry, fourth edition by T. A. Geissman

Those who are familiar with previous editions of this book will be interested to know that the fourth edition is an entire revision of previous editions: it is a considerable rewrite of a text that has already found considerable acceptance by many students.

One of the advantages of Professor Geissman's writing is that he combines a simplicity of explanation with clarity and readability which students have found extremely recommended in honours degree courses to be too demanding or too intense, or when constant re-reading during revision has made a standard text into a nightmare. This textbook has been a useful alternative. For this reason, too, it has served as a recommended text for students continuing chemistry with other subjects in their course.

These appear to be two major changes in this edition. The work has been adapted to meet the needs of those students reading in the life sciences and who need a thorough grounding in organic chemistry. The author claims that with the growing sophistication of modern instruments in biology, with its emphasis upon the details of the processes of the molecular level, a course in organic chemistry should reach beyond the descriptive level to something of the rigour of the traditional honours course. This makes considerable demands upon students reading in the biological and medical sciences, and may well be that required in most British universities. At least the result is very attractive, with a continual reference to biological systems, including a new chapter dealing with the importance of nucleophilic displacement in biological systems.

The other change has been in the ordering of the chapters, and here the result may be judged less happy. Analytical methods involving instrumentation have been brought forward, which is sensible; nitrogen chemistry is dealt with immediately after alcohols and aldehydes, which is unusual; but carbohydrates, including a consideration of the carboxyl function, which is illogical.

Another curious reordering has been the postponement of the consideration of carbocyclic systems until late in the book: its previous position, immediately before carbohydrates, was more logical and helpful, when carbohydrates could be seen by students to be the supreme example of the bringing together of alcohol and carbonyl chemistry with an understanding of configuration and conformation.

Separate chapters have been created on the Michael and Mannich reactions, and on oxidation reactions of organic compounds. The chapter on systems of nomenclature has been relegated to an appendix, which the student is asked to read before he gets very far with chapter two. There is no attempt to be consistent in using International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry nomenclature: systematic and trivial names are used according to convenience.

Despite these reservations, the book can be commended for the excellence of its writing, its clear formulae and line diagrams, and to all those who welcome the combination of "the biological aspects of organic chemistry and the organic chemistry of biological transformations".

John Biggs

Aquatic

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This book aims to provide an introduction to the chemistry of the liquid state for both advanced students and practising chemists. The underlying theme is the application of statistical mechanics and thermodynamics to equilibrium properties of liquids and liquid mixtures. The subject material is extensive and ranges from liquid argon through aqueous salt solutions, and the reader's interest being sustained throughout.

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Kinetics

Kinetics of Chemical and Enzyme-Catalysed Reactions by Dennis Piskiewicz

Books of this type, addressed mainly to students, teachers and researchers, are not numerous. Such a book is, however, hard to envisage. In fact, the difficulty for life scientists in acquiring a suitable working knowledge of topics in physical chemistry is often due to a lack of the appropriate mathematical training.

After a brief introduction to the nature of enzyme catalysis, two chapters cover the basic of chemical kinetics (order, molecularity, activation energy, transition state theory, together with some discussion of thermodynamics (enthalpy, entropy, free energy, equilibrium). All this is condensed into about 26 pages and will prove somewhat digressive to students who have little previous knowledge of the subject. An over simplified view is taken of a number of important points, for example, of the nature of activation energy, and the effect of temperature on reaction rates. The chapter on reaction rates and overall processes, the mechanism of which consist of a number of elementary steps.

There follows a discussion of acid base catalysis, with Bronsted plots as an example of linear free energy relationships: the rest of the book is devoted to a fairly detailed discussion of the kinetics and mechanism of enzyme-catalysed reactions, including the effect of pH and inhibitors, multisubstrate processes and metabolic regulation. I can only recommend this book to those life scientists who already have a good basic knowledge of kinetics.

C. F. H. Tipper

Michael Blandamer

Books for the nation

History of Public Libraries in Great Britain, 1845-1975 by Thomas Kelly

or whether the existing rights of the smaller boroughs and urban districts were to be preserved. The views of the Library Association and of the Association of Municipal Corporations are examined in some detail. The AMC seems to have been more anxious to serve the interests of smaller members than those of the large city library authorities who were also its members. It would have helped if a more thorough examination of the views of the County Councils Association could have been included. The position of the Library Association itself was simplified by the withdrawal of local authorities from membership for it was then able to concentrate on the task of trying to become an effective pressure group representing librarians' interests to both central and local government.

No great measure of library reform had accompanied the education, health and other measures in the era of reconstruction at the end of the Second World War, but twenty years later, a sufficient case had been established, largely as a result of the Library Association's endeavours, for the Government to bring forward legislation.

The aim of the Bill was to impose on all authorities a positive duty to provide an efficient library service, and on the Minister of Education the duty of superintending its provision and development. It did not attempt to remove library powers from small non-county boroughs or urban districts. Even so, the danger was that the Department of Education and Science might inspect and make it difficult for smaller authorities or perhaps press them to merge with surrounding counties led to a rigorous defence of their rights in the House of Commons.

Librarians were also anxious that every authority should be able to have its own library committee as a main committee of the council, not just as a sub-committee of the education committee as had been

the case in counties since 1919, the new legislation had the effect of preserving this. Yet neither the preservation of the position of the smaller authorities nor the assertion of the right of the library service and chief librarians to treatment more like that accorded to other public services and chief officers were to last long.

The reform of local government in 1974 meant that in England, Wales and metropolitan districts along with London boroughs were to retain library powers. The smaller library authorities which Pemberton shows had been apparently influential, but very recently were swept away and the total number of library authorities in Great Britain was cut from 460 to 161.

Mr Bolger has in fact made quite a big book of it, and much of the interest in the work lies in the technical and failures that characterize the story as well as in its aspects of Irish agriculture. But behind this lies the larger motif of cooperation in society in more general terms. The reader will have made his mind up about the value of this book as a study of the history of the Irish co-operative movement, R. A. Anderson: "But you Irish—you can conspire, but you cannot combine."

Peter Gosden

KANT Just re-published Kant's Metaphysics of Experience 2 vols. H. J. Paton "You can find no better guide." HARVESTER PRESS

BOOKS

Contradictions in Marxism

The Marxist Conception of Ideology: A Critical Essay by Martin Seliger. Cambridge University Press, £6.50 ISBN 0 521 21229 4

Marxism and Politics by Ralph Miliband. Oxford University Press, £3.50 ISBN 0 19 876059 0

The Philosophy of Marx by William Leon McBride. Hutchinson, £5.30 and £2.75 ISBN 0 09 127981 X

Karl Marx's thought exhibits two different, almost dialectically related tendencies, which perhaps explain its Janus-like character as a revolutionary doctrine and a scientific method.

There is, on one side, the perception of strikingly simple truths, asserted with visionary force and fanatical conviction. All reality is material. Human nature is just the sum of man's social relations. The history of all past and present societies is the history of class struggles. And there is also the regard for generalizations, the grasp of the variety and complexity of things, the eclecticism typical of an empirical scientist, summed up in the Latin tag which Marx was so fond of quoting: "doubt, all things."

These opposite tendencies have been emphasized in recent interpretations. John Plamenatz, in *General Marxism and Russian Communism*, drew the distinction between what he called Marx's dogma of the state as an instrument of class domination and his "theory of the parasitic state", according to which the state

stands above, but draws its strength from, class conflict within society. Stanislaw Ossowski, in *Class Structure in the Social Consciousness*, made a similar point about Marx's dual concept of social classes. Marx had a "dichotomous" vision of society divided by the ownership of the means of production into exploiting and exploited classes. Yet he often adhered to the traditional view of society as a complex class structure based on the division of labour.

Professor Seliger's *The Marxist Conception of Ideology* is based on an analogous distinction. He argues that there is a basic contradiction within Marxism, a contradiction between a "restricted" conception of ideology and an "inclusive" one. The former treats ideologies as special kinds of belief systems, false to reality, functionally conservative, economically determined, peculiar to class societies only. The latter conception treats ideologies as "sets of factual and moral propositions which serve to posit, explain and justify ends and means of organized social action, especially political action, irrespective of whether such action aims to preserve, amend, destroy or rebuild any given order". In this wider sense ideology and politics are inseparable, but their relation is a pluralistic and not a "unocausal" one, and in each case must be empirically established.

The general thesis is argued by Seliger at length in another book (*Ideology and Politics*, 1976) of which *The Marxist Conception of Ideology* is an offshoot. Here he is concerned to demonstrate the

contradiction between the dogmatic and open-minded senses of ideology in Marx and Engels, and to show how a succession of Marxist thinkers — Bernstein, Kautsky, Lenin, Lukacs, Gramsci, and Mannheim — have unsuccessfully tried to come with the central contradiction.

His book makes rather heavy reading because of complex style, the wealth of the material used, and the methodological dependence on another book, with which few readers will be familiar. But anyone with the intellectual stamina to digest it will be richly rewarded. The author's scholarship is immense. He has included an amazing range of writings in the scope of a short book and taken the reader on a guided tour *de force* through the murky forest of the literature about ideology and Marxism, both original and critical. One emerges from the experience with a heightened sense of the ingenuity of Marxists, but depressed by how little progress they have made towards a comprehensive and consistent theory of ideology. As a bonus Seliger gives one innumerable insights into the problems of the relationship of social conditions and ideology, and of truth to social phenomena which ideology as a concept tries to span.

Professor Miliband's *Marxism and Politics* seeks to elicit a Marxist theory of politics plainly from the writings of Marx, Engels and Lenin, although he includes the writings of some subsequent Marxist thinkers as well as his own reflections on the state in contemporary capitalist society.

He rightly points out that there is no comprehensive and systematic Marxist theory of politics, however central politics is to the main content of Marxism, and he suggests some interesting solutions of this

puzzle in the introduction. Instead of such a rounded theory, he offers the reader a conceptual framework for understanding politics from a Marxist viewpoint. While his Marxism is of a non-dogmatic and non-apologetic kind, he himself is nevertheless firmly committed to the basic validity of Marxist ideology. There are plenty of detailed criticisms, but no fundamental doubts about essentials. The book is lucid and readable, and wears its scholarship lightly. Within the limitations of its approach, it is an excellent introduction to the subject, and an interesting contribution to the development of a Marxist political theory.

Miliband does not admit that there is the central logical contradiction which Plamenatz asserted, that the state cannot both stand above classes and be necessarily the instrument of class domination. (Indeed there is no mention of Plamenatz's writing in Miliband's bibliography, or rather odd omission considering that Plamenatz's is philosophically the most acute interpretation of Marx's political theory in the English language. But then, Plamenatz considered Marx a brilliant, yet fundamentally muddled thinker, who has to be approached cautiously and selectively.) Nevertheless Miliband does admit that Marxist writings are not only "susceptible to different and contradictory interpretations; they also do not admit of a flexible and open. It is not hard to solve problems which form an intrinsic part of Marxist political thought". His attempts to lessen the tensions and to resolve the contradictions may not convince the sceptic on his left, but they are always interesting and often ingenious.

The blurb of Professor McBride's *The Philosophy of Marx* claims: "This book presents for the first time a serious and systematic assessment of Marx as a philoso-

pher." This is a somewhat inflated claim. One can easily think of a dozen serious and systematic recent studies of Marx's philosophy as a whole (Acron, Boche, Cudve, Jurian, Wetzer) and a similar number of studies of individual aspects (Huber, Kamin, Olinari, Plamenatz, Tucker). Some of them, admittedly, go beyond Marx and include Engels and Lenin and later Soviet commentators and the bargain, but they are all worthless assessments of Marx as a philosopher.

McBride's book certainly has value as a short and lively introduction to the subject, which presupposes no prior knowledge of philosophy and does not tax the reader unduly. But to someone who is serious about philosophical problems the book will seem to be written rather lightly over treacherous topics such as materialism and determinism, and skirting important issues such as freedom, determinism, the moral commitment to revolution, and others.

A brief chapter on "Marxism" specifically those of Lukacs, Sartre, Althusser and Yugoslavia", is, by McBride's own admission, "incomplete and sketchy", and gives the reader a real sense of the development of Marxist philosophical tradition. The book ends with the concluding words of the author, who is flexible and open. It is not hard to solve problems which form an intrinsic part of Marxist political thought". His attempts to lessen the tensions and to resolve the contradictions may not convince the sceptic on his left, but they are always interesting and often ingenious.

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Medieval Dream-Poetry by A. C. Spearing. Cambridge University Press, £8.50 ISBN 0 521 21194 8 and 21069 4

This thoughtful book contains a series of essays on poems from the thirteenth to the sixteenth centuries which make use of a dream-structure. Although the centre of the fourteenth century, the English poet Spenser's interest in the dream-poem is the focus of the book. He looks back to the even earlier tradition of vision-religious and philosophical — which he behind it.

He also traces the development of the dream-poem as a literary genre through the fifteenth century, ending with the works of Spenser and John Skelton. Spenser is the first critic in the world in some things, and here we find what we have come to expect: a judicious exposition of texts, precise and sympathetic commentaries, a dexterity of presentation which, without compromising any standards, allows us easy access to his own scholarship and to that of others.

It is a pleasure to be in his company as he explores, with guidance, various and changing literary landscapes. If many of the features of that landscape are familiar to students of medieval and early modern poetry — the book of the *Parliament of the Three Ages*, *The King's Quail*, *The Garland of Laurel* and *The Solitaire*, *Death and the Maiden*, *The Temple of Glass*, *The Love and the Nightingale* — all are explained for proper attention, and integrally related to the total scene.

Spenser never disappoints us with a dull judgment, and we are generously supplied with fresh insights and fresh directions. He is successful in generating excitement about the dream-poem of Chaucer and Lydgate's "unintelligent imitation" of them. His acute analysis of the fragmented quality of *The Temple of Glass* with its astonishingly beautiful "picaresque details" is empty, but it attracts as absorbingly as his confident vindication of *The Parliament of Fowls*, in which he shows, triumphantly, how "the dream... fits, like myth, an imaginative satirist over the problems of human life".

File eloquently when dealing with *The Parliament and The Book of*

Perchance to dream

The Duchess is, in itself, a tribute to the nature of these "most personal and intimate" of Chaucer's works, for, comprehensive and robust though the text is, Spenser responds with particular subtlety to Chaucer's delicate ironies and to the creative exploitation of the "essential ambiguity" of dreams. But the book is more than a re-writing of medieval literary history in terms of dream-poetry. Its theme is substantial and unobtrusive — that a dream-poem, from the fourteenth century onwards, is a poem which has more fully realized its own existence as a poem. Consequently, Spenser sees that it has a special appropriateness not only for the expression of "a new consciousness of mind interest in the nature and status of literature" but also for "the poet's consciousness of himself as a poet". The dream-poem becomes "a device... for making his work reflective".

There is no understating the kind of proof required by these proposals, and Spenser commits himself to a thorough demonstration of the unique and lasting usefulness of the dream-form for such purposes, often drawing support for his views from Freud and Jung. It could be a symptom of weakness in his case that fourteenth-century French poets such as Meville and Froissart — who often provided models of fictional narrative for Chaucer and his English contemporaries — are not mentioned with particular emphasis. Only, for instance, in the judgement of *Le Roman de Renart*, which makes no use of dreams, does James Winsett find "Meville's conception of his poetic self developed... from the French love poem" (1963).

As we may want to question why Hoccleve, whose very self-consciousness as professional clerk and literary man was more highly developed than that of any other early fifteenth-century English poet, felt no need of the dream within which to express it; there were other medieval modes, perhaps, in which such things could be achieved. A slightly different account of Chaucer's engagement with dream-poetry, and the way in which he worked his way out of it, would not be impossible to produce some evidence to suggest his growing uneasiness, even his impatience, with the device. As Spenser rightly observes the subject matter of the dream itself in *The Parliament of Fowls* "becomes

so solid and energetic that it allows the dreamer aside... It is, indeed, easy to forget in the last parts of the poem that the dream has any significant existence at all, just as it is easy to forget the significant existence of the green-walled paradise garden, and its "error" of eternal sunlight. Spenser's note reminds us of the walled enclosures of medieval paintings and an analogy with literary "dream-enclosures" could be interestingly pursued. To trace, however, the way in which medieval artists, whether secular or religious, came more and more to use the enclosure as a purely decorative rather than functional device, would not necessarily help his thesis that medieval poets preserved the dream as "living literary form".

As for the invocation of Freudian and Jungian theory and descriptive vocabulary to aid the literary critic turned dream-analyst, there are unexpected dangers as well as rich rewards. Once we have accepted the subtlety of medieval dream-poetry for this kind of discussion and approach, so doubt we should be willing to take account of more recent research into the content, function and interpretation of dreams, recognizing, as a start, the general lack of good empirical evidence for some of the more familiar and popular propositions of Freud and Jung.

But Spenser seems occasionally to confuse his use of the unchallengeable nature of these propositions. His use, for instance, of the Freudian concepts of "condensation" and "overdetermination" in order not only to describe but to explain the dream-poem, is a little overdone. Certainly the explanation of dream-relationships in *The Book of the Duchess* and *Pearl* neglects the later criticism of these concepts, and their reformulation as "inductive" definitions of the elements of certain processes of the thinking and waking state... (Ian Oswald: *Sleeping and Waking*, 1962).

Happily, neither the serious study of medieval dream-poetry nor the authority of a book really depends upon validation by one of other brands of present psychological or physiological theory about the nature and importance of dreams. If they did, we should be in some crisis of confidence, here is some critical reason why a sceptical attitude towards the "purposefulness" of dreaming should not be the right one for therapists and scholars.

Elizabeth Salter



A portrait of Lucretia Morga, whose countenance was that of a skilled physician, especially expert with the anemina della morte, a ring which pierced the finger of its wearer and injected poison. From *The Power of Plants* by Brendan Lehane, published by John Murray at £12.50.

Of time, not space

Structure and Society in Literary History by R. Weisman. Lawrence & Wishart, £5.00 ISBN 0 85315 397 3

After some 50 years of dominance the New Criticism has inevitably become old hat — in the eyes of many academics feel mannerist improvement on aspects of the old critical masters to be less useful to a career than something completely different. Certainly the criticism now apparently dominant on the Continent, and increasingly catching on here, is different; that it is better is more than doubtful, for it leads towards confusion and away from the text.

The criticism is essentially epistemological and ultimately Cartesian. "I think, therefore I am" is tautologous since "I exist" is already built into the first "I". Moreover, the perceived self is verified by a perceiving self — but what verifies the perceiving self? Clearly only another perceiving self, and so on. Cartesianism thus leads to excessive self-consciousness and subjective mentalism, and thence by easy stages to the rather incompatible ideas of literary texts as either physical evidence of a self, or so imaginative residues resolving doubt as to the existence of the self-as-spirit.

Epistemological blurring of art and action, its distrust of ideas (you are what you do) similarly leads to the idea of literature as essentially physics and mathematics and, on the other hand, to the idea of the world as a book. Finally, the phenomenologicalism that has grown within phenomenology takes reality to be a collection of sense-data, or (deductively) Berkeley's *esse est percipi* (to be is to be perceived) and this leads to study of the author, or the reader, as recreator.

Together, these influences tend to criticism, to be hostile to the idea of texts as public communications in a common world, and in life, to be favourable to defeatism, because we cannot be certain of everything we can be certain of nothing, and because we cannot be certain we cannot act or think constructively.

How one would expect Professor Weisman, as an East German Marxist, to disagree with these new "New Critics" and so he does, but he disagrees with the old New Criticism even more. He disagrees with the one school for its commitment to subjectivity, with the other

for its commitment to objectivity. His major disagreement, however, is with both schools' lack of commitment to history. The metaphysical critic concentrates on today's reader (or yesterday's writer in relation to him) or on the structures themselves common to all texts of a kind, the New Critics concentrate on the work, in its essential identity (as a work "for all time") or on the work as essentially spatial — novel or play as "dramatic poem" — image-patterns as more important than plot, or characterisation rather than as an action in time. His ambition is a fusion of the subjective and objective — but in literary history rather than literary criticism, in time, no space.

Indeed Professor Weisman seems to find it inconceivable that anyone could be interested in the *what* of literature rather than the *how*, or in literary structures unrelated to social functions, or in the contribution of history to the text rather than of the text to history. His concern throughout is with social relevance, and his "alternative conception of literature" (as both reflecting and creating history) is based upon a fusion of writing and activity. Hence he is obliged to swallow Heidegger's view that the author's intention is a necessary basis for the now (rightly) accepted relation between meaning and viewing significance, though this view is obviously incorrect. Were we to discover that the works of Shakespeare had been written by Bacon (and that his intentions differed from those of Shakespeare) or by Bacon's futuristic computer (with no intentions) their meaning and significance would be unchanged. Nor, of course, their value as historical documents (especially in the use of random computer competition).

This work of Anna, too, is a major difficulty.

Many other objections could be made to Professor Weisman's arguments, but it is important to say that this is by no means crudely reductive-Marxist criticism. On the contrary it is a highly intelligent, well-argued (if jargonistic) survey that deserves a much more detailed discussion than is possible here. The trial drawn back to its theory seems to be that poor literary studies would make an equally profitable study to its "practices", and that complex literary history academics are very large scums and rather vague.

Allan Rodway

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Sanitised sociology

The Fragmentary Class Structure by K. Roberts, G. Cook, S. C. Clark, Elizabeth Sewanoff. £5.00 and £2.75 ISBN 0 435 82765 0 and 82766 3

The authors' objectives are: "first, to present the findings of a survey investigation conducted in 1972; second, to advocate, develop, refine and illustrate the use of the class analysis concept; third, to propose certain currents of change in contemporary British society". However, the book does not live up to its promise. The empirical information is deficient; the claims made for class analysis are unwarranted; the discussion of contemporary British society is not new, although some of the critical comments about the "sociological" writing on this subject are of interest.

The subjects of this study are 474 socio-economically active men employed in a wide variety of occupations and resident in two adjacent districts on the suburban fringe of Liverpool. This was predominantly an owner-occupier area, although a large "modern" council estate had been built there. According to the authors, this is the type of area in which the bulk of the working population is increasingly living. This area was chosen, for reasons of cost and convenience, as well as a desire to study a specific area, on the assumption that local information would remain constant. Even so, the lives and circumstances of these people are not considered. Were these men employed in different industries? Had they lived in the area long? Such information is not provided.

The authors regard their book as a contribution to the literature on class inequality. Surprisingly, in view of recent writing on this topic, they consider class imagery the equivalent of configurations, class ideologues, modes of society and meaning systems. Moreover, they do not attempt to relate class imagery to social action in a systematic and detailed way. Nevertheless, they believe that such images, obtained by interview, pro-

vide the detail that will enable the sociologist to make "connections between subjective and objective aspects of stratification". Research into class images will permit the researcher to explore the interplay between subjective and objective aspects. In any event, the authors add up categories in terms of a middle class-working class dichotomy, a conceptual prism that is reinforced with reference to a series of social trends the authors had somehow discerned.

In their discussion of contemporary British society, the authors conclude that there is only one working class but that the "middle class" is fragmented. They claim that the working class is one class in so far as all manual workers are relatively disadvantaged. However, local circumstances have the effect of enhancing or depreciating the manual workers' class awareness.

The authors identify two "sociological" types of manual workers: proletarian manual workers and bourgeois manual workers. These two types are differentiated in terms of imagery and a series of gross measures, covering interpretation, residence, and father's occupation. With reference to the probable trends among the working class, the authors conclude that proletarian awareness is likely to become more fragmented, and that bourgeois awareness is likely to become more fragmented. They also conclude that working class dissent is likely to become more fragmented, and that bourgeois dissent is likely to become more fragmented. In contrast, the "middle class" is fragmented. Four "middle class" fragments are identified: white-collar, proletarian, technical, and clerical staff; the "middle class" of white-collar workers (the typical middle class, usually employed in large-scale organizations); the "improvised" middle class (the self-employed) and the "new-radicals" (the professional class).

The review of *Arms Control and European Security* on page 16 of *THE TIMES* for December 2 was written by Ian Bellamy of the University of York and not, as stated, by Ian Bellamy of the University of York.

among the working class and the "middle class" is a fragmented class structure and four worried sociologists. The authors foresee danger in an aggravation of the divisions and distinctions between the middle classes and in the trends among the working class. In particular, they regard Great Britain as a country suffering from creeping political decadence which eventually may lead to the horror of political paralysis. These authors fear for the passing of "liberal democracy".

Omissions abound in this book. Most importantly, despite frequent mention of class and class argument, there is no discussion of the labour process is not mentioned; the significance of the tasks performed by different people in their occupational worlds is varied activities of the working population. At the end of the book, I did not know who these workers were, how they stood in relation to each other and to such institutional arrangements as the state, or what might be the limits and possibilities of social action by different sections of the working population.

Perhaps the problem lies in the authors' conception of sociology. For them there are two types of relevant writings: "sociological" literature and "Marxist" commentaries. The "sociological" literature is cited, reviewed, and criticized; the "Marxist" commentaries are rarely quoted. Yet these commentaries are the counterpoles for the thesis, and do not receive an explicit mention, but during there all the same. Such is their commitment to: sanitised sociology that these authors address a narrow body of writing with a futuristic slant, presumably in the hope that it will go away.

Peter Fairbrother

Correction

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Prefects paradox

The Prefect in French Public Administration by Howard MacLain. Croom Helm, £8.95 ISBN 0 85664 236 3

When I was a graduate student intent to pursue a career in French universities, I was once offered a thesis topic by a French Law Professor: "How can Britain be governed without Prefects?" My university career never took place in France, perhaps because I was unable to master enthusiasm for this fundamental question. Yet this old story, long buried in my memory, returned to my consciousness while reading Howard MacLain's study of *The Prefect in French Public Administration*, as the book answers the question, but does so in reverse: "My supervisor's approach was not only 'galloccentric', but rather political, as prefects do not matter much, if at all. They are a piece of the traditional landscape of French administration; they are not major elements of the decision-making process."

The decline of prefects did not take place without regard to action, however. Howard MacLain's presentation gives a detailed account of all the failures, and indeed triumphs, of the prefectural system of the 1950s and 1960s.

Having shown that, by the 1950s, prefects had long ceased to be actors or colonial governors to become mostly *de-bureaucratised* squeezed by conflicting demands of government and citizens, the author describes the actions of prefects who endeavour to enhance the prestige of Prefects during the Fifth Republic, as well as the very small results of the vestal order of laws, decrees and the action drafted for this purpose. The aim was to reestablish the majestic stature of prefects; the idea was to make them become once more the nerve centres of the provinces. But everything was stacked against them. Since the Second World War, if not already before 1939, mayors of large cities, wholesalers of the General (County) Council, technical directors

of the field services of the government (in education, public works, assistance, and the like) had begun to undermine the prefect's influence and to bypass his office. Elected representatives had friends and patrons in "technocratic" circles, matters directly with their own numbers in Paris. While prefects may have stated that they wished prefects to take the major decisions, they neither had the political muscle nor perhaps the "brain" to do so. In fact, the prefects have been reduced to a minor role, and their influence is limited to the local level. The prefects have been reduced to a minor role, and their influence is limited to the local level.

The book describes the prefectural decline with great accuracy; it does, however, leave open a more fundamental question: the survival of prefects in the modern world. The prefects have been reduced to a minor role, and their influence is limited to the local level.

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Jean Blondel

Admirable sense of realism

The Stories of Kleist by Denis Dyer. Duckworth, £6.95 ISBN 0 7156 0995 5

At the turn of the eighteenth century Heinrich von Kleist drew a pencil sketch of a stone arch; his object was to demonstrate that the gravitational stability of the arch depended on its composite structure. As a writer he applied the law of gravity to all planes of experience in order to demonstrate the precarious balance of the rule of law. Victims of the recent acron version of *Die Marquise von O...* will have been able to acquire themselves with some of the issues raised and resolved against a background of law, martial law and emotional imbalance.

Dr Dyer, an Oxford Kleist scholar, addresses his book on the stories to the general reader as well as to students. His approach emphasizes the development in Kleist's attitude towards the problems of life. He does this by no means easy to gauge in a writer who sought to perfect his art in the form of drama, cross-references to the plays balance the overall design in which *Das Leben in Chiffre* establishes the first link and the contrastive relationship between the two worlds.

The second story under discussion is thoroughly scrutinized, not least

because of Kleist's challenging treatment of the theme in *Die Marquise von O...* Kleist's contemporary setting, of excesses of the French Revolution and an attendant negro revolt. The author's analysis of Kleist's regional setting, and the regional prefect were in no way really the key points of governmental action.

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In addition to making skilful use of the texts and source material, Dyer includes, in a chapter headed "Paradox and the Irrational" (which treats of both in different contexts), a possible translation of Des Barres' *von Locarno* end of the brilliant anecdotes. This chapter also contains comments on Kleist's only contribution to the form of legend, *Die heilige Cécile*, and *Die Gewalt der Musik*, which resumes discussions of musical technicalities.

One can hardly expect such a compact volume to be exhaustive. Nevertheless, although some repetitions are inevitable, others, notably in the chapter "Themes and Style" confuse rather than clarify issues of which Dyer has already shown in the preceding chapters a perceptive grasp. The statement, repeated within two pages, that the opening sentences of *Die Marquise von O...* are "a brilliant character study" seems made allowance for Kleist's demonstrative handling of titles denoting social status as distinct from names.

In treating the intrusion of chance with its attendant ambiguity as well as plainly in terms of ill-chance and of happy chance, Kleist depicts reactions to life and its insidiousness the relevance of which Dyer's informative book should help to make accessible to a wide public. He presents Kleist as a writer who has a sense of realism which, in his reservations, not only stands, and many other practitioners in the art of fiction, but also in the art of fiction, which, it is left Kafka spellbound.

Mary Garland

